

Application No. 10/042,373
Reply to Office Action of 06/15/2005

Attorney Docket No. 10287.48
Customer No. 27683

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled).

24. (Previously presented) A method of controlling a position of carriers holding micro-substances comprises the steps of:

pouring remote-acting bodies which can be positionally manipulated by a remote force, micro-substances including a target substance of an assay, and carriers having surfaces with a plurality of holes, cavities, concavities or convexities that are sized to be capable of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, into a liquid in accordance with a predetermined order,

making the remote-acting bodies and the micro-substances be held in the holes, cavities, concavities or convexities in the surfaces of the carriers by agitating the remote-acting bodies, the micro-substances, the carriers, and the liquid, and

controlling positions of the carriers holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying a remote force to the remote-acting bodies,

the pouring comprising pouring sterilized reductive enzyme into the liquid in addition to the remote-acting bodies, the micro-substances, and the carriers, and

comprising selecting the carriers to be sterilized cellulose-carriers, selecting the liquid to be a sterilized liquid culture medium, selecting the remote-acting bodies to be magnetic particles, and selecting the remote force to be a magnetic field.

25. (Previously presented) A method of controlling a position of carriers holding micro-substances comprises the steps of:

pouring remote-acting bodies which can be positionally manipulated by a remote force, micro-substances including a target substance of an assay, and carriers having

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surfaces with a plurality of holes, cavities, concavities or convexities that are sized to be capable of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, into a liquid or a gas in accordance with a predetermined order,

making the remote-acting bodies and the micro-substances be independently held in the holes, cavities, concavities or convexities in the surfaces of the carriers by simultaneously agitating the remote-acting bodies, the micro-substances, the carriers and the liquid or gas,

controlling positions of the carriers holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying a remote force to the remote-acting bodies,

selecting the carriers to be cellulose-carriers having therein the plurality of cavities, concavities, convexities or holes, and

selecting the remote-acting bodies to be magnetic particles.

26. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 25, further comprising the steps of:

selecting the remote force to be a magnetic field, and

controlling the magnetic field so as to control the positions of the carriers in a manner which causes filtering of the micro-substances through separation from the liquid or gas of the carriers with the remote-acting bodies and micro-substances held thereto.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 25 comprising, prior to the pouring, separately preparing the carriers, the remote-acting bodies, and the micro-substances.

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29. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 24, comprising selecting the micro-substances to comprise one of bacteria and viruses.

30. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 24, comprising selecting the predetermined order to be addition to the liquid culture medium in sequence the sterilized reductive enzyme, the micro-organisms, the sterilized cellulose-carriers, and the magnetic particles.

31. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 25, comprising selecting the micro-substances to comprise one of antibiotics and anticancer substances.

32. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 24, wherein the agitating includes using a mechanical force.

33. (Previously presented) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 26, further comprising:

carrying out the agitating in a manner that includes using a mechanical force; and
configuring the carriers so that the holes, cavities, concavities or convexities are large enough to allow the magnetic particles to undergo orientation therein in response to the magnetic field.